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FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 1903.  
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Circulation During July.

Geo. L. Bloomfield, Auditor of The St. Louis Republic, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of the Daily and Sunday Republic printed during the month of July, 1903, all in regular editions, was as per schedule below:

Date.	Copies.	Date.	Copies.
1.....	112,350	17.....	110,230
2.....	111,200	18.....	110,400
3.....	111,200	19.....	110,270
4.....	112,350	20.....	110,230
5.....	112,350	21.....	112,350
6.....	110,950	22.....	109,700
7.....	111,240	23.....	109,540
8.....	111,200	24.....	109,230
9.....	111,240	25.....	110,510
10.....	112,350	26.....	110,270
11.....	111,700	27.....	109,580
12.....	112,370	28.....	109,700
13.....	111,070	29.....	109,440
14.....	111,250	30.....	109,950
15.....	110,900	31.....	109,000
16.....	110,750		

Total for the month.....3,494,430  
Less all copies spoiled in printing, left over or filed.....53,440

Net number distributed.....3,440,990

Average daily distribution.....110,661

And said Geo. L. Bloomfield further says that the number of copies returned and reported unsold during the month of July was 6.5 per cent.

Geo. L. BLOOMFIELD,  
Notary Public, City of St. Louis, Mo.  
My term expires April 15, 1904.

WORLD'S—1904—FAIR.

CAUSE OF WAR.

Bulletins from the scene of battle: "Two o'clock—The Kearsarge has just made a graceful swing to starboard." "Five o'clock—The fleet has begun a retrograde movement." "Seven o'clock—The Admiral leads the quaterdeck." "Midnight—All lights are out."

The great struggle is on, and the bulletins received by wireless telegraph are the only news obtainable. "Blue Fleet," protecting the summer resort of Bar Harbor, is lying in wait for "The White Squadron." Both are manned by Uncle Sam's best men. The cause of the war is said to be that the young "middles" of the Blue have cornered all the belles at Bar Harbor, and that the officers of the White have vowed that they will not be left out on the cold, cold sea.

It is rumored also that a little matter of education in naval tactics and a test of the wireless telegraph figure in the hostilities. But we are assured that this is as nothing compared to the first named cause of conflict. Sea power must have reasons for action.

NUMBERS AND UNIFORMS.

The decision of Chief Swingley to provide badges for the officers and members of the Fire Department is commendable. By this plan the individuals may be identified by their personal numbers, as portrayed on the badges, while the number of the company will designate the house to which they belong.

Mr. Swingley's idea calls attention to the innovation made by the management of the Laclede Gas Light Company and which may be recommended to other private corporations whose employees enter private residences in the performance of their duties. The company requires that its inspectors, meter readers and employees who have direct relations with the public shall wear uniforms bearing the company's title and badges showing the employee's numbers.

The electric light companies and other quasi public corporations might follow this plan to their own advantage and to the good of patrons. Frequently petty thefts are committed by persons representing themselves as employees of quasi public corporations, or some offensive act is done or word said and the patron has no basis for valid complaint.

All employees who enter residences should wear uniforms and badges. Then householders could properly refuse admission to a caller who might have no right in the house. In one respect this innovation is an advertisement for the corporation. But, on the other hand, it is an innovation that is directly beneficial to patrons.

CONSIDER THE CHILDREN.

Five hundred boys and girls will enjoy a picnic on the White House grounds in Washington. The public playground idea is being urged in New Orleans. Cities in all of the large cities who have pride and thought are working to lessen the burdens and increase the measure of joy for the children. The playground is one means, the enactment of stringent child labor laws is another.

Such cities as have not these outdoor places of recreation in the slum districts, and do not strive to obtain them, are and should be classed as delinquent. Alabama recently passed a law rendering it a misdemeanor for a parent to allow a child to do manual labor. That is an extreme case, but similar legislation, or amendment of existing statutes, figures at almost every session of the legislatures in many States.

The public playground system of St. Louis deserves the commendation and support of every citizen. These little paths, presided over and made attractive by men and women who know how to reach the child's heart, are of incalculable service and prefigure the future well of the community. It sounds like a platitude to say that the children live the hope of the nation, but there are some truths so true that their reiteration becomes a trite.

The boys of today in the crowded blocks of North St. Louis are the men of tomorrow. The children of today are the citizens of tomorrow. The children of today are the citizens of tomorrow.

class of honest, direct men is needed—needed in the congested wards—who will know what they want when they go to the polls, and see that they get it. The crux of the whole disgusting state of affairs which has been uncovered, so far as a final remedy is concerned, lies with the people. Under what handicap does the youth enter upon the suffrage, if his life has been a constant jostling against vice and poverty, with none of those alleviating hours of healthy play in which the mind is assured that every cloud has its silver lining? The boys and girls soon will constitute this "people" upon which we harp as the sole power, at last resort, in politics. It seems a far cry from public playgrounds to boodle disclosures, but a connecting thread exists.

TRIALS OF REFORM.

Reform is a periodical awakening, made necessary by the lethargy of good citizens and the activity of bad citizens. During the time of its existence good citizens are vigilant and demonstrate interest in public affairs; when it subsides public business is transacted by apollomen. The one reason that reform does not take the shape of permanent good government is that the good citizen, having accomplished momentary redemption, relapses into inattention. Satisfied with his work, he feels that the government will take care of itself.

The process of reform is arduous and varied. It depends upon conditions, the state of public opinion and a leader. Many leaders fall before the right leader arrives on the scene. Not infrequently the right leader, after the first battle is won, is left alone on the field to bear the brunt of attack from the enemy and to endure the vituperation of his own supporters. When his term expires, he is pleased to bid farewell to public life forever and remain as far from official business as possible.

Yet there are brilliant and happy exceptions to this rule. Occasionally a leader is found who masters the situation, retains domination and by both personality and achievements holds a large, faithful and enthusiastic following. Generally, however, reform runs its course in all too short a time, the leader fails to get hearty encouragement and the agents of corruption and misrule regain their sway.

St. Louis may prove an exception in this respect. Reform may not only be continued, but expanded. Here there is a prospect that the foundation is established for good government which will last a decade or more. Misgovernment affected public morals and the public treasury. Good government has brought economy, system and permanent improvements.

What is required, in order to perpetuate good government and make advancement progressive, is that all good citizens should be familiar with public affairs and the successes and reverses of public officers. They should know public business and public officials. They should understand conditions and be qualified to vote intelligently at all elections. And, understanding, they should vote; vote at every election.

The hardships of reform are borne by the leaders, by those who make the struggle and who meet the spoliators face to face. To these men the citizens owe encouragement, out of justice and for the sake of the city. This encouragement will be sufficient if it shows satisfaction with the work done and an endeavor to perpetuate the reform.

OVERHEAD WIRES.

Wednesday's storm furnished strong arguments for the burial of wires and cables, especially high-tension wires. Through the merest good fortune no serious accidents occurred; for it is estimated that one hundred poles fell in different parts of the city. Networks of wires lay on the streets and sidewalks. Four horses were killed from live wires.

Say that four men or four women or four children had been killed, instead of four horses, by fallen high-tension wires. That would not have been remarkable; in fact, it is wonder that several persons were not injured or killed. According to report a boy was injured, perhaps fatally, by receiving a shock while leaning against a trolley pole at Vandeventer avenue and Morgan street. For about two hours Tuesday Olive street cars were stopped by the grounding of a feed wire.

There are three strong, apparent reasons why poles should be razed and wires put underground. The first is public safety; the second is public convenience; the third is the improvement of the service, which is an interest common to the companies and the people.

There is no necessity to expand the lesson from Wednesday's storm. It is plain and emphatic enough. Provisions should be made at an early date to get rid of as many poles and overhead wires as possible and as soon as possible. Especially should high-tension wires be buried.

RIVER DES PERES SEWER.

The construction of an intercepting sewer immediately within the western city limits and along the eastern boundary of the county is now only the question of a short time. Officials of the county have recognized what the municipal officers perceived long ago, that River des Peres would, if utilized as a natural sewage channel, be seriously detrimental to public health and comfort, as it is and has been.

As a rule large sewer systems are built in natural watercourses. In order to get a gravity flow public sewers are built in the valleys, so as to take sewage from private and joint-sewers and deliver it easily to the river. River des Peres could be used as a public sewer, to drain a large territory in the county and large districts in the city; but, in that case, an artificial, covered sewer would be necessary and provisions would have to be made to carry off the water coming from the highlands, the volume of which is not infrequently immense.

Civil engineers experienced in sewer work and sanitary experts seem to agree that the River des Peres should be preserved and improved, for, obnoxious as it is, it could be made into a comparatively picturesque waterway. They suggest, offering plans and arguments therefor, that the sewage of the urban and county territory about the stream be carried off in an intercepting sewer, which would involve the establishment of a sanitary sewer system in the county, just beyond the western city limits.

Whether the river's channel should be converted into a sewer or an intercepting sewer be built, the establishment of a county sewer district, in this locality, will eventually become imperative as a public sanitary precaution. Residents of the county will realize this contention more distinctly later, as nuisances multiply.

There are sanitary, engineering, economic and aesthetic reasons why the stream should be preserved and beautified, and the sewage be controlled by intercepting sewers, built in conjunction with district sewers in the eastern part of the county and in the western city limits. Former Sewer Commissioner Hermann formulated plans for straightening a strip of the small river and constructing driveways and promenades on either side. His plans proposed the intercepting sewer project. The only objection to his ideas is the prospective cost. The plans are excellent and practical.

So as to facilitate progress when the opportunity shall have arrived, the city and county officials should endeavor to reach a conclusion on the important features of the work. Preliminaries should be arranged at once, for it may be necessary to obtain special legislation from the state in order to proceed satisfactorily. That officials of the county are considering

to favor construction of intercepting sewers, as do municipal officials, is an indication that the opportunity for making the improvements is not far distant.

COLLEGE ARCHITECTURE.

The development of a refined and yet a picturesque architecture in the new college buildings recently erected and in the course of erection throughout the United States is the occasion of remark from both foreign and home observers. Attention was drawn to the fact in the annual education number of the Outlook.

The architectural character of American buildings savors largely of the commercial, which is proper in the centers of commercial activity. But that this severe quality does not invade the realm of education is reason for congratulation and proof positive that the public mind is not wholly occupied with the "cent per cent."

A majority of new educational structures, to use the architect's terms, are, broadly speaking, "Late Gothic" or "English Collegiate." In some respects ours differs from the English style and achieves individuality. The result is a quiet dignity, both of mass and of line. The dull-red uncut granite used as material adds a note of color, and the whole effect is consonant with the purposes for which the buildings are designed.

St. Louis compares favorably with her sister cities in possessing such examples of superior taste. The new Yehman and McKinley high schools, the Emerson, Edward Wyman, Cote Brillante and Blow public schools can be cited. Principal, of course, are the new Washington University buildings, which are planned individually and placed collectively in accordance with the most advanced conception of college architecture. The solidity, dignity and majesty of the American college edifice may be seen to advantage any evening, if the structure now used as the Administration building by the World's Fair be studied in comparison with the gayer type of Exposition palace. The latter are of to-day, a riot of minaret and dome, their every characteristic bespeaking a celebration; the former is a permanent thing, to stand a century as a home of learning in the Middle West. Nowhere could a more suggestive contrast be found.

A revolt is on in Macedonia. About two thousand years ago a young man, Alexander by name, started "something doing" in Macedonia. The world then was almost too small to hold him. He spread himself over Greece and a good part of Asia. Advices from Macedonia at last came to the ears of the world. Alexander is spouting fire over in the neighborhood of Mount Olympus? We must install him at, say, St. Helena, give him pad and paper, and let him write poetry about "The Isles of Greece."

A Chinaman ran off with \$5 of another person's money, and, when collared by an officer, said, "No money." That was a polite reply, worthy of the statesmen who stand on their constitutional rights in Grand Jury rooms.

The conviction of Faulkner in Number Nineteen in the history of local boodle trials. There were nineteen members of the old "House Combine," which flourished during the Ziegenhain regime.

The Missouri Commission has decided that this State shall be represented by "live" exhibits at the World's Fair. Excuse us from "dead ones."

RECENT COMMENT.

Cooling Buildings.

Cassier's Magazine.  
With the advent of midsummer temperatures, the cooling of buildings becomes a refreshing subject for consideration. The more one inquires into it, however, the more one wonders why buildings are not more generally cooled by such means as are readily available. It cannot be altogether that cost of operation is a controlling factor, for, to begin with, it would not be a serious item; and then, too, since much money is freely expended in equipping buildings with heating systems and in operating these in cold weather, assuredly a fair expense ought to be cheerfully assumed to secure a somewhat corresponding degree of comfort during the heated term. An indirect steam or hot-water heating system would lend itself well to a reversal of functions, and would be comparatively simple and cheap to operate. A fan or blower would be necessary to drive air over the coils underneath the floor and into the rooms through the usual ducts and registers; and the supply pipes for the coils would have to be connected with a water cooler or other means of refrigeration, with a pump interposed for circulating the cooling agent through the system. Essentially there is nothing complicated or expensive about the outfit, and the comforts which it promises are alluring.

China and Editors.

W. R. R. in Cleveland Plain Dealer.  
China is a bad place just now for the independent editor and the fearless cartoonist. They don't have any censor over there. The editor writes what he sees fit, and the cartoonist draws what he thinks best. And then, next morning, the official notifiers come around and leaves his card, and the unhappy pair either get out of the back window and run for it, or else they walk up to the captain's office and get the hooks.

If they run away they'll be shot when sighted, and if they stay and face the official music they'll be decapitated when smited. Of course, it is a great waste of material either way. A headless editor might do for the ordinary weekly, but he would never answer for a live daily. And there is mighty little encouragement for budding talent in saving at his neck with a two-headed snake.

In fact, it's going to be difficult to keep up the supply if this sort of treatment is persisted in. And only the most fatal results can be expected for the Chinese press if it is urged along in its present headless course.

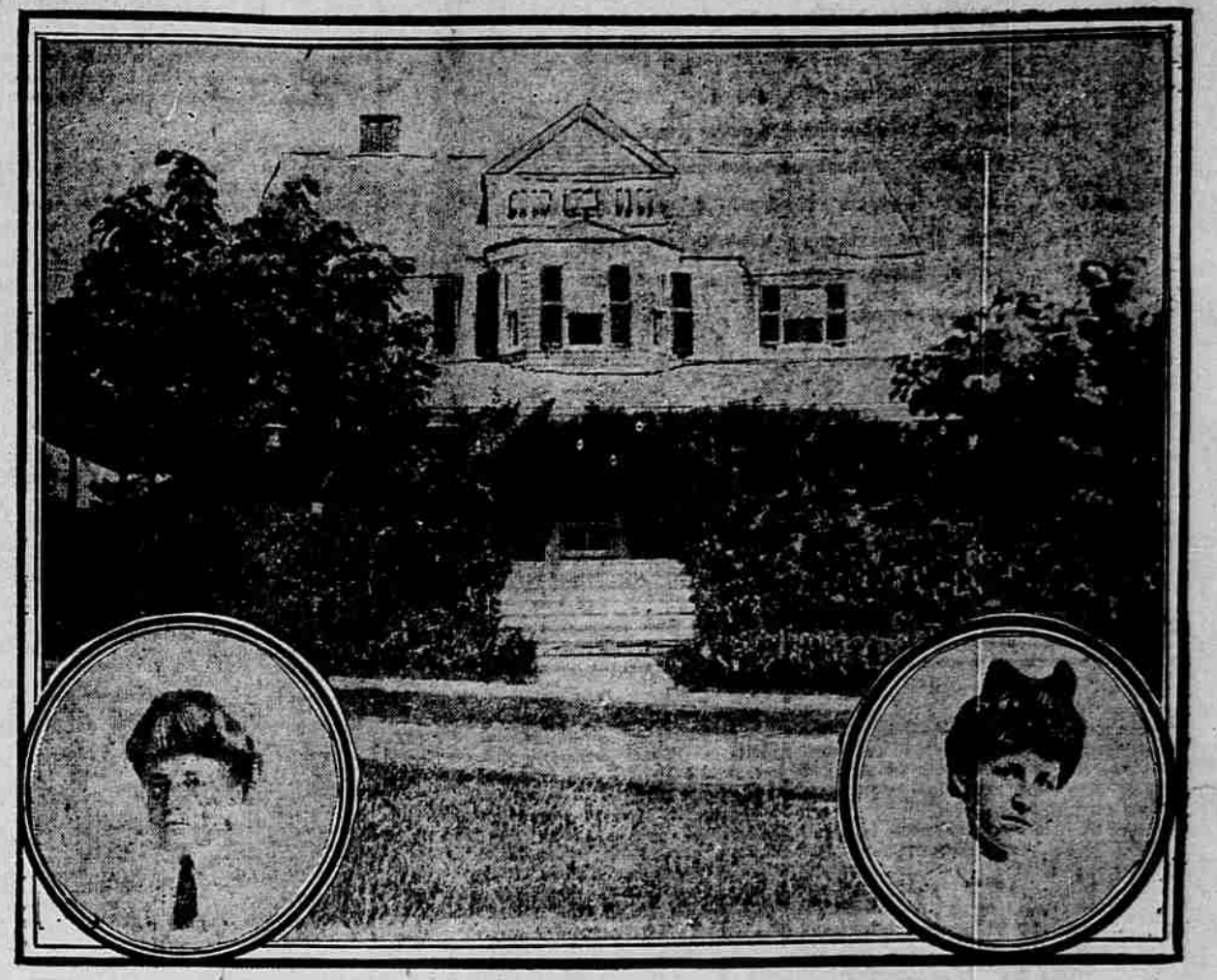
Folk's New Florence Speech.

Kansas City Journal.  
Circuit Attorney Folk made many good points in his excellent speech on "Good Government" at New Florence Saturday, but nothing else that he said was so important or so deserving of attentive public consideration as his remarks in reference to the responsibility of the people for corruption and other evils of government. When a lobbyist is known to buy a vote, the press denounces him for it. When a legislator is known to sell a vote, the people execrate him for it. When anything goes wrong in public offices, the men occupying those offices, or the politicians whose influence put them there, are given all the blame. The people seldom stop to think that they themselves usually are to blame when such things take place. But they are. The prevalence of corruption or any other form of official misconduct in a free government may, in almost every case, be traced directly to the blindness, stupidity, prejudice or carelessness of the people themselves.

Race Suicide in Fiction.

New York Times.  
A correspondent of the Popular Science Monthly, much impressed by the recent talk about "race suicide," has made a tentative study of the birth rate in fiction, finding that in that field, as in the real life of overcivilized communities, the rate is decreasing. "While families of respectable size may be found occasionally in Thackeray or Dickens, they scarcely exist in Meredith, Hardy and James." However, the analysis of a typical novel in each class—"Vanity Fair" and "Barchinam's Career"—does not seem to us to quite bear out the correspondent's idea of the alarming decrease of the birth rate in fiction, while he is surely mistaken when he invades the field of the poetical drama in a statistical mood. Macbeth and his kindred, for instance, surely had a family, or else Lady Macbeth told a falsehood in one well-remembered line of each tragedy, and one of Shakespeare's exhortations to her was in vain. But, of course, Macbeth's children may have perished young, as Macbeth's did.

THE MISSES WICKHAM REPRESENT ST. LOUIS'S SOCIETY BELLES AT JAMESTOWN, RHODE ISLAND.



MISS FRANCES WICKHAM. Cottage of Mr. and Mrs. Edmund C. Wickham, Shorely Hill, Jamestown, R. I.

Will Campbell, Fred Spangle, Chas. Klein.

A party of young persons chartered by Mrs. S. Cunningham enjoyed a day's outing at Jefferson Barracks on Tuesday. The young folks left the city at 10 a. m. and returned on the 7 o'clock special.

They were met at the Barracks Station by friends who escorted them over the reservation, including the burying ground. At noon luncheon was spread in the woods, after which dancing and games were enjoyed.

Among those who went were: Misses—Margaret Cunningham, Anna Walsh, Mayne Degan, Josephine Walsh, Nessie—W. H. Dean, D. E. Corney, N. J. Ray, J. C. Murphy, L. F. Redmayne, Mrs. S. Cunningham.

Elizabeth Cunningham, Vivian B. Gdynia, Belle Johnson, Marguerite Walsh, S. D. Clarke, E. J. Staunton, Sergeant G. St. Clair.

TRIP TO FERN GLEN. A picnic at Fern Glen was enjoyed last Tuesday by the following persons:

Misses—Ida Richter, Florence Smith, Nora Bruesack, Minnie Bruesack, Messieurs—O. M. Schell, Leo Umrah, F. A. Gerken, Mr. and Mrs. H. Brueck.

Mr. and Mrs. William Keane and daughters have removed to No. 423 West Morgan street.

Professor Calvin M. Woodward, at the head of the manual training department of the St. Louis is a guest of his brother, F. F. Woodward, Fitchburg, Mass.

Mrs. Charles M. Woodard of Washington avenue and her granddaughter, Lucille, have gone to Grayson Springs, Ky., to spend the summer.

Mrs. J. J. Dowling, Jr., accompanied by her sister, Miss Katherine Moran, of No. 328 Bacon street, and Miss Helen Holman of No. 533 Slatery street, left for Memphis, Tenn., after a few days' visit to the city of Memphis for a trip to Waterloo, Ala.

The Misses Hulda and Carrie Aronson and Miss Ray Cohen are enjoying the cool breezes at Elkhart Lake.

Miss Margaret Brooks of the South Side departed Wednesday evening to spend a few weeks with the Misses Koerner of New Orleans.

Mrs. S. M. Ladd, Harry C. Ladd and Miss May Ladd of St. Louis are at the Rodick cottage, Bar Harbor, for the season.

Among the week's arrivals at the Noma-tina House, Kenneshunkport, Me., are the Misses Ellen Fisher and Cornelia Fisher of St. Louis.

Mrs. Branch Cottrell of No. 463 West Morgan street has just returned from a trip in the mountains of Tennessee. She was accompanied home by her cousin, Mrs. Sam Harvey of Little Rock, Ark.; also by Miss Nora Shea and Miss Keating of Memphis, Tenn. After a few days' visit the Misses Shea and Keating will proceed to the lakes of Wisconsin and will return to Memphis via Chicago about September 15.

Judge and Mrs. Amos M. Thayer have closed their Jamestown season and gone to Westfield, N. Y., where they will spend the remainder of the summer.

Mrs. B. C. Adkins of Delmar boulevard will spend the month of August at the Chicago Beach Hotel and the Northern lakes.

Mrs. Fred C. Weber of Olive street, with her niece, Miss Dora Weber and Miss Thelma Anthony of the South Side, will depart today for a month's visit in Chicago, Grand Haven and Milwaukee.

Mr. and Mrs. George L. Balmer announce the engagement of their daughter, Amy H., to Mr. Charles A. Deane, the wedding to take place August 15.

Mrs. Claude Vrooman and Mrs. Fred Dellmeyer have gone to Mackinac Island for several weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Fluegel announce the engagement of their daughter, Anna, to Mr. John P. Huber.

Mrs. J. David Barth, with her daughter, Margaret, are in Connecticut for the summer.

The Misses Ada B. Culp, Jessie E. Herries and Florence Fitzpatrick have departed for Denver, Colorado Springs, Manitou and other points of interest, returning the latter part of August.

Mrs. Louis Rhee, Mrs. N. Von Bergen, the Misses Lulu and Blanche Scheer and Miss Kaile Knudson have returned home from a trip to Horse Shoe Lake, Mo. Fishing and rowing were the features of their visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Fiss have returned from a tour of the Eastern resorts and are now at No. 270 West Pine boulevard.

Mrs. M. D. Hamble, No. 1454 North Nineteenth street, with her daughters, Grace and Florence, departed Wednesday for Chicago, Hudson, Wis., and Minneapolis, Minn.

Miss Sue Donahue entertained friends Tuesday evening with a lawn party at her home in Rose Hill. Dancing was enjoyed until 11:30, when refreshments were served. The hostess was assisted in entertaining by her sister, Miss Mary Donahue.

Mrs. J. A. Snyder of No. 436 McPherson avenue is visiting friends in Chicago and South Haven.

Mrs. W. H. Taylor and daughter, Kathryn, have returned home from a visit at Neoga, Ill.

Ralph McKittick has joined the St. Louis colony at Magnolia, Mass., this week.

A well-known party at the Overlook, Tuesday evening, consists of Thomas O'Reilly, Miss Elizabeth O'Reilly, Miss Helen D. O'Reilly and J. Archer O'Reilly.

Not yet, the flowers are in my path. The sun is in the sky; Not yet, my heart is full of hope, I cannot bear to die.

Not yet, I never knew till now How precious life could be; My heart is full of love, O Death! I cannot come with thee!

But Love and Hope, enchanted train, Passed in their falsehood by; Death came again, and then he said, "I'm ready now to die!"

POEMS WORTH KNOWING.

DEATH AND THE YOUTH.

BY LETITIA ELIZABETH LANDON.

"Not yet, the flowers are in my path. The sun is in the sky; Not yet, my heart is full of hope, I cannot bear to die."

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But Love and Hope, enchanted train, Passed in their falsehood by; Death came again, and then he said, "I'm ready now to die!"

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO.

TO-DAY IN ST. LOUIS.

From The Republic, August 5, 1878.  
A cablogram from Mrs. Charles W. Hicks of Chateau d'Ognon, France, announced the death of her father, Louis A. Le Beau, an old citizen of St. Louis. He was born here in 1807 and was the son of Louis Le Beau de Taton, who was the secretary of Zenon Trudeau, the Spanish commander at the time of the Louisiana Purchase, and after the Territory was transferred to the United States was elected one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas and Colonel of militia. The son was prominent in St. Louis's affairs all of his life, his home being the residence lately occupied by General Harvey. At a meeting of the City Council, W. H. Scudder and John J. O'Brien submitted a report on the subject of the proposed bridge across the Mill Creek Valley tracks at Jefferson avenue.

Commander W. T. Sampson, U. S. N., visited St. Louis friends. The Reverend J. G. Mayer, who was pastor of the Bernard Street Baptist Church, removed to Silver Lake, Kan. John Lavigne's store, at No. 69 Olive street, was robbed, the thief selecting the best Key West cigars.